

CITY STATE

FLEMING'S FOLLY

—BY—
LAWRENCE A. KEATING

SYNOPSIS

The story opens with Link Fleming addressing a meeting of Boone County cattlemen, called together with the object of forming an irrigation company.

Roper Kilgo, the boss of the Rawhide and nearby ranges, who seemed to approve the plan, but was really opposed to it, had forced Boak Torney, a derelict mining engineer, whom Kilgo knew would be called upon to give his expert opinion in favor of the scheme, to reverse his earlier endorsement, and declare that irrigation in Boone County so far as Fleming's plan was concerned was only a non-forged way to waste money.

The meeting terminates, but Buzz Hamilton and his sister, Helen, Link and Kilgo stay behind and Helen asks Fleming questions about his irrigation plan. This angers Buzz, who accuses Fleming of trying to lull him into a false sense of security, and he asserts, ruin his "spread". Buzz shoots at Fleming in an uncontrollable fit of anger, but Buster Townsend, Link's foreman, is so in the stomach, that the bullet is unharmed. Buzz is arrested and sentenced to three years' imprisonment.

Helen and Fleming form a partnership to provide irrigation for their own properties.

Fleming goes home and studies the plans drawn by Torney to learn whether they could be adapted to a smaller scheme suitable for his and Helen's land, and is satisfied it could be done. Feeling cold, he lights the fire and there is an explosion that wrecks the house, burns it and the plans and renders Link unconscious. He is rescued from the blaze by an employee.

(Now Go On With The Story)

CHAPTER VII.—Continued

"They turned to see a short man in a fur-collared overcoat, pausing in the doorway. At recognition that this was a girl he quickly dodged his derby hat. The man was appalled with a long pointed nose and a sharp chin. He moved gravely and came forward.

"You're Mr. Fleming, I guess? My name's G. I. V. Berrens. Traveling representative of the Western Improvement Company of Denver, I hear, about a project Mr. Fleming is interested in, and decided to come out to speak to him. It must have been on the way when this—er, regrettable incident occurred." He stood beside the recumbent rancher. "Mighty sorry, mighty sorry," he stammered in a low, peculiarly husky voice. "Mighty sorry indeed."

Link could not recall having seen the man before. Berrens drew up a stool and offered it to Helen. Then, tending his derby on the stand where the oil lamp was, he thrust back the long overcoat, apparently joining his fat little hands behind him. Rocking back and forth, heel-and-toe, he smiled again and shook his head.

"I am not selling anything but ideas, possibly—one might say ideas, Mr. Fleming. So don't worry about that. Fact is, in your youth, you may, perchance be particularly amenable to my proposition."

Link's glance showed plain longing for the fellow to be gone. It had no visible effect on Mr. Berrens, however. Nodding and smiling from one to the other of them, and back again, he continued what sounded like a prepared speech.

"You are, I believe, interested in irrigation?"

"Right! At the Trailend Hotel in Rawhide I chanced to fall into conversation with one or two townspeople. Mr. Otto Pieper, president of the bank, for one. Ah—I gather that you and this young lady have discussed some irrigation project in common—together—which, one might say, is not thought highly of by the Rawhide ranchers?"

"That's true, Mr. Berrens."

The fuzzy little man exhibited a row of gold teeth. "Sir, the company I represent, the Western Improvement Company, is a powerful, well-financed concern. We are, as a matter of fact, interested in securing a small, interesting place where we can experiment. I am not trying to sell you anything, sir, except possibly an idea."

"Don't think I can afford even an idea now, Mr. Berrens. My ranch house—"

"Exactly!" Mr. Berrens beamed. His gold teeth gleamed. "This carbonizing of your ranch house in, I assume, a severe blow to a man of your apparent financial standing. Nothing saved, eh? Mr. Fleming, you are a sick man, sir. Think! That's what this should bring in this day and age!"

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"What I am getting at," he ended with dramatic suddenness and appropriate gestures, "is this: my company will purchase your ranch. We don't want it for the little. We want it because Silver Creek provides an interesting opportunity to try irrigation and to study the results!"

"With men trying to kill you at every turn? Mr. Fleming, you don't accept a fair price and leave the country?"

The bunkhouse seemed silent save for the muffled talk outside and the impatient stamp of horses' hoofs. Link scowled as he looked from Berrens to the girl, then into space. Discouragement welled in him at realization that all Boone County wanted to see the irrigation scheme fail—actually hoped it would fail. Someone wanted it to the extent of attempting to kill him. The loss of the plans, the destruction of the ranch house—all this was warning enough. Could a man succeed in the face of such odds?

Thought of surrender was not a pleasing one. Link Fleming could not recall when he had surrendered before.

Nevertheless there was a difference between being courageous and foolhardy. He could sell out and go elsewhere, easily enough.

He gazed thoughtfully at Helen Hamilton, seated nearby, her graceful figure turned his way. Perhaps he would do her a service to scotch this scheme here and now. To persist, plainly, meant trouble. His pulse quickened and new warmth welled through him. He wanted to avoid making trouble for her, trouble of any kind.

"How much for the Star Loop, Mr. Berrens?"

because that it might be worth while you have. I've been informed as to your land, however. I'll say five thousand for the land and the buildings, and your herd at the market price. That's just a rough idea, but we can work it out on a satisfactory basis, I'm sure."

"How about seventeen hundred acres of land that'll grow alfalfa when it's watered?"

"Yes! I can't warrant an acre, it isn't worth much. Fifty cents an acre, Mr. Fleming, and that's a very generous offer. Very generous, indeed!"

He thought a moment. With his

steers and equipment the price would run around ten thousand dollars. It was less than the place was worth, but that amount in cash meant settling all this. And the more he pondered, the more deeply convinced he

"Well, I'm not sure what stock to sell. Helen would be spared but leaving the friction between herself and Buzz, in prison—between herself and Kilgo, who must have some grounds for expecting to win the girl."

Suddenly his mind was made up. "Mr. Berrens, I'll take—"

"Wait!" The girl rose swiftly

Do You Ever Wonder

Whether the "Pain" Remedy You Use is SAFE?

Ask Your Doctor and Find Out

Don't Entrust Your Own or Your Family's Well-Being to Unknown Preparations

THE person to ask whether the preparation you or your family are taking for the relief of headaches or for the relief of your family doctor. Ask him particularly about "ASPIRIN."

He will tell you that "before the discovery of Aspirin" most "pain" remedies were advised against by physicians as bad for the stomach and for the liver. Which is food for thought if you seek quick, safe relief.

Scientists rate "Aspirin" among the latest methods for the relief of pain of headache, rheumatism, neuralgia, and the experience of millions of users has proved it safe for the average person to use regularly. In your own mind, is it?

"Aspirin" Tablets are made in Canada. "Aspirin" is the registered trademark of the Bayer Company, Limited. Look for the name on every tablet, in the form of a cross on every tablet.

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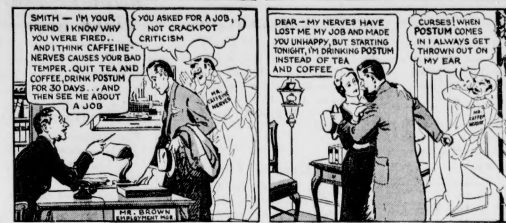
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Are you troubled with the itching tortures of eczema, urticaria, scabies, rashes or other skin afflictions? For quick and happy relief use pure, cooling, soothing, and soothing Baby Sown Soap.

D. D. D. Prescription. Its gentle cleanser, the trusted and renowned, the liquid talcum powder to break the itch. No soap runs down. Greatly and steadily—Baby Sown Soap. It's the best of all soaps. It's the best of all soaps. It's the best of all soaps.

It's Best of You Baby Sown Soap

Mr. CAFFEINE-NERVES gets thrown out



WHILE many people can safely drink tea and coffee, there are thousands and thousands who cannot. Maybe you are one without realizing it.

If, for any reason, you suspect that the drug caffeine found in both tea and coffee is undermining your nerves, your digestion, switch to POSTUM for 30 days. I bet you'll feel better. There is nothing in POSTUM that can possibly harm you.

FREE—Let us send you your first week's supply of POSTUM free. Write for it to Consumer Service Department, General Foods, Limited, Cobourg, Ontario.

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Her eyes were bright and her face pale. "You shan't do it!" she exclaimed indignantly. "Why, Link, what makes you talk so?"

"But we can't get in any work now till spring. That means the cost goes up. And Helen, I'd like to get you up this. Maybe we'll both be better off."

"Then you don't think we could build a dam?"

(To Be Continued)

Little Helps For This Week

The things which are impossible with men are possible with God. Luke 18:27.

Unless the Lord had been my help, my soul had almost dwelt in silence. Psalm 141:17.

When obstacles and trials seem like prison walls to be, I do the little I can do. And leave the rest to Thee.

There are seasons when to be still demands immeasurably higher strength than to act. Composure is often the highest result of power. Think you it demands no power to calm the stormy elements of passion to throw off the load of depression, to suppress every repining thought when the dearest hopes are withered, and to turn the wounded spirit from dangerous thoughts and wasting grief to the quiet discharge of ordinary duties. Is there no power left when a man, stripped of his property and of the fruits of a life's labor, quails discomfited and gloomy foreboding, and severely and patiently returns to the tasks which Providence assigns? The mind never puts a greater power over itself than when it yields its interests to God.

Real Rainbow Plant

Aster in German Garden Shows Four Different Colors

A "rainbow" plant has been found in a Hamburg garden. It is an aster in which four different colors are shown by flowers on the same stem. One blossom is white with a yellow centre. The other is a mixture of blue and red. Botanists explain that this is due to an irregular division of cells in the plant's structure.

"No you are building a new house, aren't you? How are you getting along with it?"

"Fine. I've got the roof and the mortgage on it, and I expect to have the furnace and the sheriff in place."

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ASK YOUR DOCTOR FIRST, MOTHER

Before You Give Your Child an Unknown Remedy to Take

Every day, unfortunately, mothers take advice of unqualified persons instead of their doctors—in remedies for their children.

If they knew what the scientists know, they would never take this chance.

Doctors Say PHILLIPS' For Your Child

When it comes to the frequently-used "milk of magnesia," doctors, for over 50 years, have said "PHILLIPS' Milk of Magnesia"—the safe remedy for your child.

Remember this—And Always Say "Phillips" When You Buy Your child deserves it; for your own peace of mind, get that you get it—Genuine Phillips' Milk of Magnesia.

Also in Tablet Form:

Phillips' Milk of Magnesia Tablets are the only "milk of magnesia" that is the equivalent of the famous Phillips' Milk of Magnesia.

PHILLIPS' Milk of Magnesia.

MADE IN CANADA

"I'll Tell Anybody Gin Pills are Good"

—writes a Lunenburg, N.S., man who has suffered from Rheumatism. He further states: "I cannot praise Gin Pills enough. After using them I am now able to go around without a cane."

If your kidneys are not efficiently disposing of the waste matter in your system, excessive acidity may develop, resulting in painful joint action, lumbago. At the first sign of kidney trouble take

GIN PILLS

FOR THE KIDNEY

10

ROYAL

WRAPPED AIR-TIGHT

ROYAL YEAST CAKES keep Full Strength

RAISIN BREAD

SANDWICH ROLLS

APPLE CAKE

Use Royal Yeast Cakes and Royal Sponge Recipes for these good breads...

These famous dry yeast cakes assure perfect leavening. Fine quality is one reason... careful packing is another. Every Royal Yeast Cake is separately wrapped. Air-tight—it keeps fresh. No other dry yeast has this protection. The standard for over 50 years—Royal Yeast Cakes are now prepared by 7 out of 8 Canadian women who use dry yeast. Order a package.

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STANDARD BRANDS LIMITED

Trade Area and Distributors in: Toronto, Ont., Montreal, Que., and the West Coast.

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Horse Scored A Point

The motor age received a rebuff at a sale of confiscated vehicles in Orangeburg, South Carolina. Two automobiles, in fair condition, were sold for a total of \$19. Then a horse and wagon were offered. Bidding grew spirited. They finally were sold. The sale price was \$119.

YOU CAN'T BE CARELESS WITH COLDS

A cold is an internal infection. Common sense dictates you treat it as such. This is nothing better than Groves' laxative.

Groves' laxative is a powerful, well-financed concern. We are, as a matter of fact, interested in securing a small, interesting place where we can experiment. I am not trying to sell you anything, sir, except possibly an idea.

"Don't think I can afford even an idea now, Mr. Berrens. My ranch house—"

"Exactly!" Mr. Berrens beamed. His gold teeth gleamed. "This carbonizing of your ranch house in, I assume, a severe blow to a man of your apparent financial standing. Nothing saved, eh? Mr. Fleming, you are a sick man, sir. Think! That's what this should bring in this day and age!"

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